

On behalf of Aspetuck Land Trust and our 1,000+ local members in Weston, Westport, Fairfield and Easton, I ask that the Education Committee oppose the section of HB6357 which proposes adding the Healthy Foods Initiative as a new CIA funded program.

We think that the Healthy Foods Initiative should be funded as a stand-alone line item under the Department of Education budget. The diversion of these CIA funds to other programs, no matter how worthy, threatens the level and integrity of the funds available for the programs for which it was created and sets a very dangerous precedent for future dilution of the fund.

CIA funding is important to our local economy and quality of life by its support of land conservation, farmland preservation, historic properties, and affordable housing projects.

Thank you for considering our perspective

David

David Brant / Executive Director
Aspetuck Land Trust
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